Turner For The CIA

IT IS DIFFICULT to believe that the same thought processes that first produced the name of Theodore C. Sorensen to be director of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) have now produced the name of Vice Adm. Stansfield Turner.

Whereas Mr. Sorensen once sought conscientious-objector status during the Korean War, Admiral Turner has devoted three decades to active duty with the Navi.

Whereas Mr. Sorensen was perceived by many in Congress as unrealistic about the nature of Soviet intentions, Admiral Turner has served for the last two years on the front line of the free world's defense perimeter. And whereas Mr. Sorensen aroused the anxieties of the intelligence community—to say nothing of the defense community— Admiral Turner will be seen as a professional.

As commander of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's (NATO) Southern flank, Admiral Turner should have a firsthand insight into the substantive issues that separate the free world and the Soviet sphere. He has had as well a lifetime commitment to the Constitution and the nation's security.

The Senate and the nation should welcome his appointment.